

# PRADO HELITACK BASE

The Prado Helitack Base was established in 1988 and is located in the CDF Riverside Unit in the town of Chino at Prado Conservation Camp.

Prado responds to an average of 55 fire calls per year. On a daily basis, the crew of Prado consists of one pilot, one fire captain, and eight inmate firefighters. Prado Helitack operates a UH-1H helicopter. Also operated out of Prado Helitack Base is the helitender, which serves as a support vehicle for the copter. The helitender contains 1,000 gallons of fuel, along with foam, backup tools, out-of-county bags, an extra bucket, paperwork, Meals Ready to Eat (MRE's) and many other items that are necessary to support the \*helitack crew.

Prado provides coverage to Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties and the Cleveland, San Bernardino and Angeles National Forests.

\*CDF helitack crews consist of highly trained and experienced firefighters who are assigned to and respond to wildland fires aboard CDF helicopters. Once arriving on an incident the crew, typically 5 to 6 firefighters along with a fire captain, are let off with fire fighting hand tools and initiate fire suppression actions. Helitack crews also perform other helicopter support operations when not assigned to direct fire line operations such as helibase operations and support.



*For information about other helitack bases,  
visit the [Air Program](#) page of the  
CDF website:  
[www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)*



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